

CAPSULE SUMMARY
BA-2618
St. Peter's Lutheran Church
7910 Belair Road
Baltimore, Baltimore County
1952
Private

The Gothic Revival style St. Peter's Lutheran Church was constructed circa 1952. A number of cornerstones mark the building giving dates such as, "1940 ths 1952," "1913," "1881," and "1862." It is unclear if these dates reflect previous buildings located on this site or chronology of the congregation's establishment. The church is reflective of the mid-20th century revival in popularity of the Gothic Revival style and dates to a mid-century period of suburbanization on the northeast side of Baltimore City. The stone church was constructed in the Gothic Revival style, which was introduced to the United States in the 1830s by architect Alexander Jackson Davis and popularized through the pattern books of landscape architect Andrew Jackson Downing as a reaction against Classicism. Reflective of this style are the wall buttresses and pointed-arch windows. The Gothic Revival style abstracted elements from Gothic cathedrals of medieval Europe, primarily those of England and France.

The present building stands one-and-a-half stories tall and one-bay-wide with a front gable slate tile roof. Constructed with a random ashlar-cut stone veneer, the building is four bays deep with dividing buttresses. Projecting from the façade is a one-story gabled bay containing the main entry. The entry consists of double-leaf vertical board door with molded surrounds. The door itself is set in a stone, pointed-arch panel. Within the bay, a thin, rectangular, stained-glass window pierces the gable end while wider rectangular stained-glass windows pierce the sides. All of the windows have stone surrounds. Flanking the main block on the rear are two gabled wings. Projecting from the southwest wing is a two-story projecting bell tower. Three major additions to the church sprawl to the west. The first is a circa 1960 addition with a stone veneer foundation, stucco walls, and gabled asphalt shingle roof. Second is a circa 1970 school addition. This two-story-high, six-bay-wide addition has five-course American bond brick foundation with continual rows of windows filling in the sides. It also features a flat roof and an exterior-end chimney with five-course American bond brick. Attached to the original church by a breezeway is a circa 1960 office addition with a stone veneer foundation. Located directly behind the original church is a small cemetery with approximately 100 headstones. These mostly granite and marble upright stones face south and range in date from the 1880s to the 1960s. Some of the older headstones have epitaphs written in German. Names of family members buried here include Wirsing, Riemenschneider, and Bader. Located to the southwest of the church is a circa 1920 dwelling probably used by church officials.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-2618

1. Name of Property

(indicate preferred name)

historic St. Peter's Lutheran Church

other

2. Location

street and number 7910 Belair Road not for publication

city, town Baltimore vicinity

county Baltimore County

3. Owner of Property

(give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Not Available

street and number Not Available

telephone Not Available

city, town Not Available

state MD

zip code Not Available

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber Not Available folio Not Available

city, town Towson tax map N/A tax parcel N/A tax ID number Not Available

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other:

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			1

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-2618

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This Gothic Revival church was constructed circa 1952. A number of cornerstones mark the building giving dates such as, "1940 ths 1952," "1913," "1881," and "1862." It is unclear if these dates reflect previous buildings located on this site or chronology of the congregation's establishment. The present building stands one-and-a-half stories tall and one-bay-wide with a front gable slate tile roof. Constructed with a random ashlar-cut stone veneer, the building is four-bays deep with dividing buttresses. Projecting from the façade is a one-story gabled bay containing the main entry. The entry consists of double-leaf vertical board door with molded surrounds. The door itself is set in a stone, pointed-arch panel. Within the bay, a thin, rectangular, stained-glass window pierces the gable end while wider rectangular stained-glass windows pierce the sides. All of the windows have stone surrounds. Flanking the main block on the rear are two gabled wings. Projecting from the southwest wing is a two-story projecting bell tower.

Three major additions to the church sprawl to the west. The first is a circa 1960 addition with a stone veneer foundation, stucco walls, and gabled asphalt shingle roof. Second is a circa 1970 school addition. This two-story-high, six-bay-wide addition has five-course American bond brick foundation with continual rows of windows filling in the sides. It also features a flat roof and an exterior-end chimney with five-course American bond brick. Attached to the original church by a breezeway is a circa 1960 office addition with a stone veneer foundation. This one-story building has a front gable roof with asphalt shingles and a square cupola.

Located directly behind the original church is a small cemetery with approximately 100 headstones. These mostly granite and marble upright stones face south and range in date from the 1880s to the 1960s. Some of the older headstones have epitaphs written in German. Names of family members buried here include Wirsing, Riemenschneider, and Bader.

Located to the southwest of the church is a circa 1920 dwelling probably used by church officials. This Colonial-Revival-Style building stands two-and-a-half stories in height and three-bays wide. Constructed with rock-faced concrete blocks, this hipped roof building has hipped dormers and panel-faced concrete block quoins. The façade is pierced with four 3/1 windows and a stained glass window. The side entry is a single-leaf wood door that is paneled with lights and surrounded by four-light paneled sides and a three-light transom. A half-hipped porch spans across the first story.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-2618

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates	1952-present	Architect/Builder	Unknown
Construction dates	1952		

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Gothic Revival style St. Peter's Lutheran Church was constructed circa 1952. A number of cornerstones mark the building giving dates such as, "1940 ths 1952," "1913," "1881," and "1862." It is unclear if these dates reflect previous buildings located on this site or chronology of the congregation's establishment. The church is reflective of the mid-20th century revival in popularity of the Gothic Revival style and dates to a mid-century period of suburbanization on the northeast side of Baltimore City. The stone church was constructed in the Gothic Revival style, which was introduced to the United States in the 1830s by architect Alexander Jackson Davis and popularized through the pattern books of landscape architect Andrew Jackson Downing as a reaction against Classicism. Reflective of this style are the wall buttresses and pointed-arch windows. The Gothic Revival style abstracted elements from Gothic cathedrals of medieval Europe, primarily those of England and France.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-2618

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.
Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	<u>.50 Acre</u>	
Acreage of historical setting	<u>Unknown</u>	
Quadrangle name	<u>Baltimore East</u>	Quadrangle scale: <u>1:24,000</u>

Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction in 1952, St. Peter's Lutheran Church has been associated with the acreage at 7910 Belair Road.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Incorporated	date	May 29, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

BALTIMORE EAST QUADRANGLE

MARYLAND

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

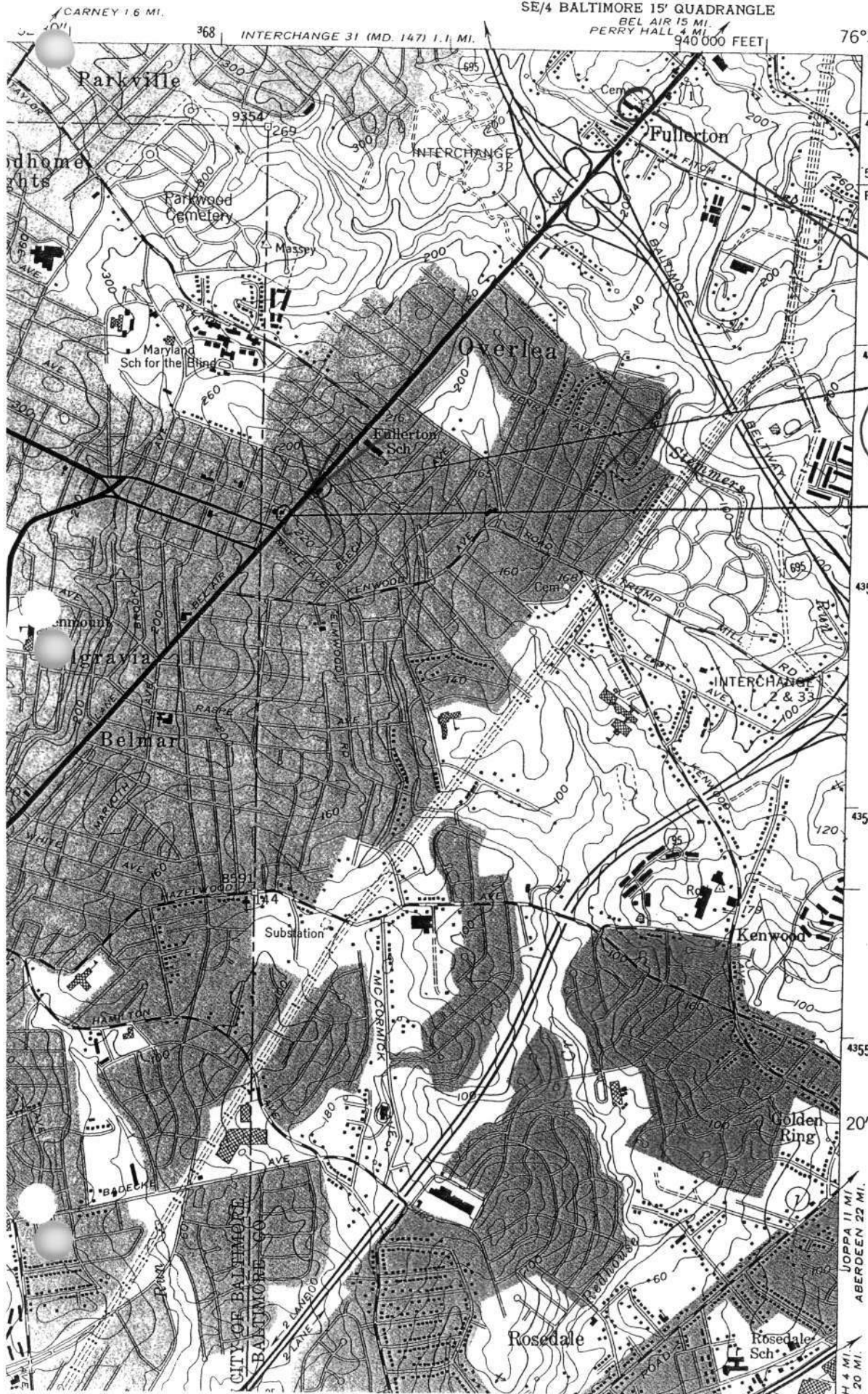
SE/4 BALTIMORE 15' QUADRANGLE

BEL AIR 15 MI.

PERRY HALL 4 MI.

940 000 FEET

5762 IV NW
(WHITE MARSH)



BA-2618
7910 BELAIR ROAD
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-2641
7 W. OVERLEA AVENUE
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY



BA-2618

7910 BELAIR ROAD

BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE COUNTY

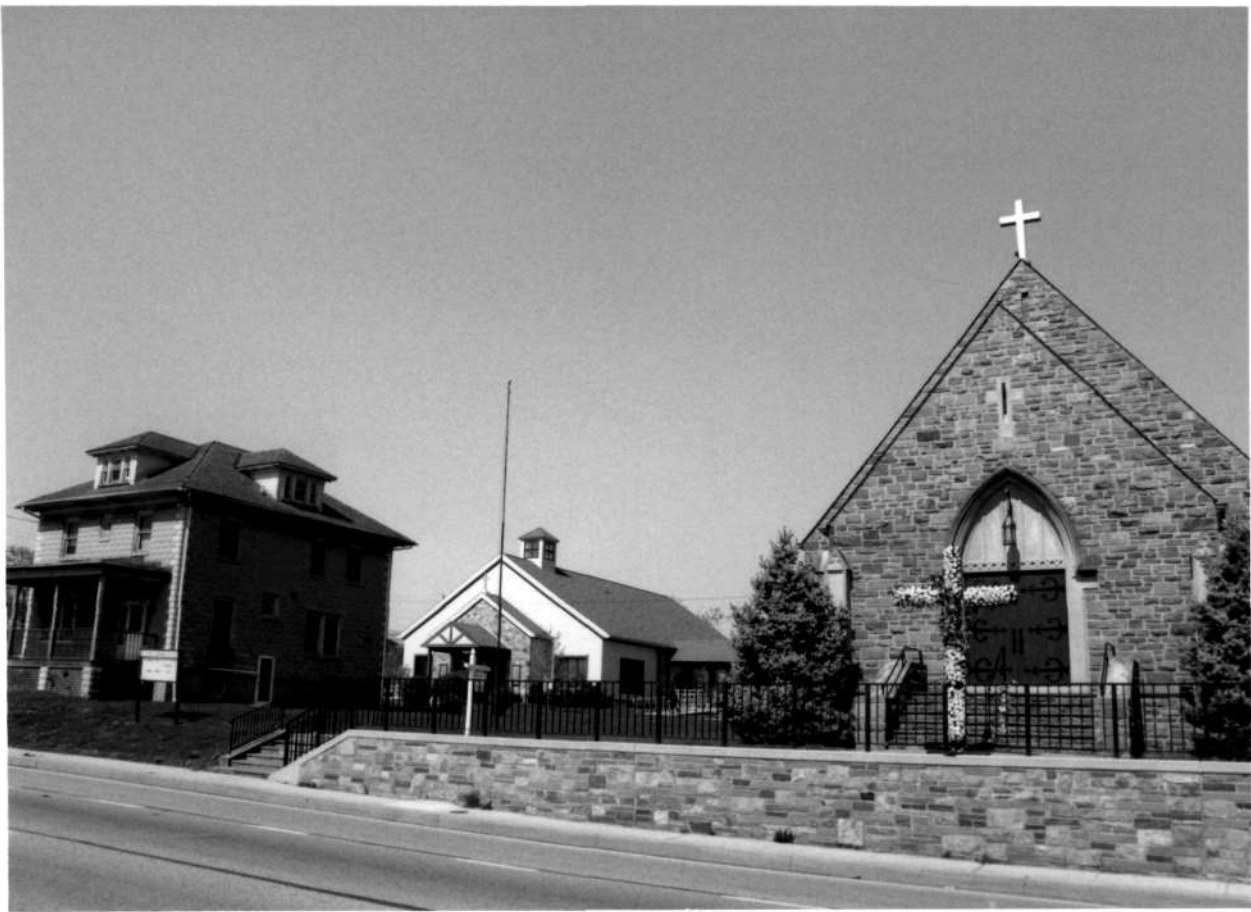
TRACFOLES

4/2001

MD-STPD

S CORNER

1 of 3



BA 2618

7910 BELAIR ROAD

BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TERRACES

4/2001

MD-SITPO

SE ELEVATION

245



BA-2618

7910 BELAIR ROAD

BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACTS

4/2001

MD-SHPD

N CORNER

3 & 3

BA-2618

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - 1937-1953 - 7910 Belair Road. This is the fourth home of a congregation dating from 1862. The 1880 brick church was to have been replaced by the present church in 1937, but work was stopped in 1940, resulting in a covered basement auditorium. The fieldstone nave of simplified gothic was completed in 1953. The building measures 36 x 114 feet (Evening Sun, January 8, 1953). Windows are rectangular rather than lancet. Front lawn consumed to widen U.S. 1 on October 3, 1994.